

# The Adair County News.

VOLUME XVI

COLUMBIA, ADAIR COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY APRIL 9, 1913.

NUMBER 23

## A DOCUMENT OF INTEREST.

### J. N. Coffey County Road Engineer, Reports to the Fiscal Court of Adair County.

Gentlemen:—

I herewith submit my report as County Road Engineer for Adair County Ky., for the 6 months ending March 31, '13.

Immediately after the Oct., 1912, term of the Fiscal Court at which time you elected me County Road Engineer. I attended an examination as required by law, and secured from the State Commissioner of Roads a certificate authorizing me to act in the capacity to which you had elected me.

Under a ruling of the law made by the Hon. Jas. Garnett, Attorney General of the State: immediately upon my return from the examination at Frankfort, Ky., assumed the duties of the office, on Oct., 12, 1912.

My first act as County Road Engineer was to go over the county and examine the roads, culverts and bridges, for the purpose of ascertaining as well as I could the needs of the county and the conditions pertaining to roads in each section.

I found the roads in a deplorable condition, a few sections only having roads worthy of the name, the main part of the county being traversed by a series of gullies, rocky branches, creek beds, etc., in an almost impassible condition.

As required by law I have with the assistance of the Hon. N. H. Moss, County Judge, laid off the county into what we think are convenient and practical road districts, appointing by mutual agreement, from one to three Assistant Engineers in each road district, as the needs of each division in our judgment required.

For the present we think that these road districts will suffice to give us a chance to put to a practical test the intentions of the framers of the new road law.

We have laid off and described in a book kept for that purpose, the bounds of 18 road districts in the county, and have appointed the following Assistant Engineers:

- Dist. No 1, Wm. McKinley.
- " 2, D. M. Moore.
- " 3, W. E. Todd.
- " 4, S. T. Hughes.
- " 5, John Dohoney and W. S. Stotts.
- " 6, June Willis.
- " 7, J. C. Dohoney.
- " 8, W. S. Pickett and W. H. Kemp.
- " 9, Chas. W. Sparks.
- " 10, Millard Corbin and J. H. Breeding.
- " 11, J. W. Burbridge and Albert Turner.
- " 12, Jas. Jones and J. W. Marshall.
- " 13, Virgil Hurt.
- " 14, Cassius Breeding—Josh Beard and Jim McQuerry.
- " 15, J. B. Coffey.
- " 16, Tom McDermott and E. B. Morgan.
- " 17, Granville Russell and Hardin Cundiff.
- " 18, S. L. Banks and E. O. Turner.

Where we have appointed more than one assistant in a district we thought the territory was too large for one man to look over and take care of properly.

The Assistant Engineers are all employed with the understanding that they are to perform the services required of them for the sum of one dollar per day when actually employed in the performance of their duties.

A certified claim for their services to be presented to the Fiscal Court for allowance upon this basis.

Of actual work upon the roads of the county but little has been done since I assumed the duties of the office. I did go out on several of the roads during October and November, 1912, and got the overseers to warn in the hands and try to get their divisions in as good condition as possible before winter set in, but in the most of the county the hands had already worked out their time and there was no possibility of doing any general improvement before Spring and summer of this year.

About the first week in January this year, we had, as you all know, the most disastrous flood this section has ever known. This flood in addition to washing the roads all to pieces and creating almost impassible conditions in many places, washed away 48 feet of the approach to the bridge over Russell's creek at mouth of disappointment creek, and rendered useless and unsafe, about 60 feet of the approach to the bridge at Milltown. The bridge over Green river at Wat-

son, was swept from the piers and lodged about 75 yards below, in the river.

We have repaired the damage to the bridges at Milltown and Disappointment creek, supplying new foundations timbers at both, and can truthfully state that these two bridges are now in better condition than they were before the washout. The cost of this repair has all been paid except \$5.50, and the total cost for both bridges will not exceed \$90.

In the Green river bridge case at Watson, Granville Russell, Assistant Engineer, with the assistance of the people living near by has been enabled to save a great deal of the wood material of said bridge, consisting of flooring, sleepers and banisters, which were in drifts along the river, he having had it hauled out and stored in a safe place.

In regard to the main span of the bridge, the Hon. County Judge and I have contracted with the Champion Bridge Company to take it out of the river, assorting the damaged and undamaged as they take it out at a cost to the county of the actual cost to the said bridge company plus 25 per cent., for their profit; and at this time the work is about completed.

We deemed this to be the best course for us to pursue, as we had no one in this county that was prepared to do the work, and besides, when this company, who were the builders of this bridge, get it all out of the water and straightened out, they will be able to give us and estimate of what we will have to procure in the way of new material in order to reconstruct said bridge, and also give us an estimate of the probable cost thereof.

In this connection we would recommend that your honorable body authorize the raising of the bridge 3 or 4 feet when it is reconstructed, so as to place it above high water mark, as it has been demonstrated by this catastrophe to be entirely too low.

We would also recommend that the approach on both sides of this bridge be placed upon cement abutments, dispensing with wooden underpinning, and that iron runners be substituted for the wood. We believe this will be economy in the long run.

The new road law stipulates that the County Road Engineer gather together all the road machinery belonging to the county and house the same when not in use.

As the county had no house that could be used for that purpose I have ordered the Assistant Engineers in each road district to gather up all the machinery within their jurisdiction belonging to the county and take charge of the same returning to me an itemized statement or list of the same for the preparation of my report to your honorable body at the October term of the fiscal court this year.

I find from the reports verbally rendered so far, that there are enough picks, shovels and scrapes to answer our purpose if we are able to set in motion and carry out our plans of systemizing the construction and maintenance of the roads.

The subject of taxation, voting bonds etc., for road purposes has been engaging the attention of our citizens considerably of late, especially that specimen of the Genus Homo, the candidate, who always loves the dear people and is very considerate of their welfare just before election. All this verbosity and printers ink will no doubt answer a good purpose in the long run, but I regard the most that has been said as premature and not pertinent to the subject. We have a new and as yet untried road law and I would recommend that we give this law as it now stands, a test, expanding our energies along the line mapped out in its provisions before we go off at a tangent voting bonds or incurring any other great expense.

As I see it, what we need is a radical change in the system of working the roads. To expect the people of this county to improve and maintain six or seven hundred miles of dirt roads, rocky branches and creekbeds in passable condition with picks and shovels by hand labor supplemented occasionally with a little plowing (with a borrowed plow) and a road scraper, would be as near an impossibility, in my judgement, as the digging of the Panama canal with a grubbing-hoe.

A levy of 20c tax on the hundred dollars will produce approximately \$5000.00 of revenue which I believe is ample for the time being as we are not yet sufficiently developed in road knowledge to attempt a big outlay. This amount of money will at least provide us with sufficient funds to buy some road machinery of new and improved type for each road district and pay for the execution of the law as it now stands and provide for the maintenance of the bridges and culverts.

We have one large grader that I consider impractical for the most of this county, and I would recommend

that it either be sold or turned over to the Pellyton (No. 15) road district as they can use it up there and have secured more benefit from its use than any other part of the county.

For the county at large I would recommend that the county buy for the use of each road district a small grader that the farmers can use with their two-horse teams, a working outfit for each district I think should consist of 2 or 3 plows of the bull tongue or coulter type—a small two horse grader—a split-log drag and the tools—picks—shovels and scrapes we now have.

The system in the management of the roads as now in practice I regard as an inexcusably expensive one. The business of the county, should, I think, be administered along economical lines the same as that of an individual.

When we need a little lumber, nails or other material for the construction or repairing of a bridge or culvert, we are forced under emergency to go to some one who can supply us with the needed article and contract to pay therefore in most cases a rather exorbitant price for sometimes, as in the case of lumber, a rather inferior article having the same charged to the county, the party furnishing the same having to wait from 6 to 12 months to get his pay and may be lose 2 or 3 days time in getting his claim allowed by the fiscal court. All of this adds to the expensiveness of the system and is paid for in the long run by the people. In this connection I would suggest that you empower your Road Engineer if you can trust him financially, and if you cannot you had better get one that you can, to lay in supplies of needed road material in each road district, said material to consist of lumber or other material for culverts—nails by the keg—or any other supplies needed in the keeping up the roads and bridges. This would result in a great saving in my judgment.

A responsible head is needed in every undertaking in life. The road question is no exception even if it is the largest one undertaken by mankind since they tried to build the tower of Babel, and as your honorable body has seen fit to put me at the head of this road movement and as the responsibility for success or failure must rest upon me, I request that you stand by me in all that is reasonable in these suggestions and in my efforts to better the roads in this county.

I believe I have well matured plans in my mind that will cost but little to carry out that will soon after being put in operation make it manifest to the most skeptical that something practical and beneficial can result from the new road law if conscientiously carried out.

Therefore, if it is legal and this court has the power, I ask that I be given authority to buy the machinery and other road supplies as suggested in these recommendations. Requiring of me of course a strict accounting for all that may be placed in my hands, and furthermore that I act in conjunction with the state road commission as directed by law.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. N. Coffey  
County Road Engineer.

### Manifestation of Sympathy.

People of Columbia have at all times been ready to help when distress comes.

At the mass meeting held at the court-house to raise funds for the storm and flood sufferers, \$102.72 was raised. The next morning a sum sufficient to swell the amount to \$131.87 was paid in, and last Thursday night Columbia Lodge, No. 230, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, sent its check for \$19.50, making a total of \$142.37.

Mr. Jo N. Conover, who was Secretary of the public meeting, sent a check to the Red Cross Society, Louisville, for \$131.87, receiving a receipt for same. The amount given by the Odd Fellows Lodge was sent to R. G. Elliott, Grand Secretary of Kentucky.

Mr. T. C. Faulkner and family, who resided near Campbellsville, have removed to Columbia and are occupying the residence on Garnett Avenue, recently purchased by Mr. Faulkner from Mr. Walker Bryant. Mr. Faulkner is a good citizen and he has an excellent family, and our people are glad that they have located in this place. Mr. Bryant removed to a small dwelling on his land recently purchased of Mrs. Sarah Bradshaw, where he will make his home until he can build a residence, which he will commence and complete this coming summer and fall.

Cholera has got among the hogs on Crocus creek, and it is reported that many have died.

### Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation Etc.,

Of The Adair County News published weekly at Columbia, Ky., required by the Act of August 24, 1912.

Note—This statement is to be made in duplicate, both copies to be delivered by the publisher to the postmaster, who will send one copy to the Third Assistant Postmaster General (Division of Classification), Washington, D. C., and retain the other in the files of the post office.

NAME OF	P. O. ADDRESS.
Editor, C. S. Harris,	Columbia, Ky.
Mgr. Ed., C. S. Harris,	" "
Bus. Mgr., C. S. Harris,	" "
Pub., The Adair County News Co.,	Columbia, Ky.

Owners: (If a corporation, give names and addresses of stockholders holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of stock.)

C. S. Harris,	Columbia, Ky.
Mrs. C. S. Harris,	" "
W. E. Harris,	" "

Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders, holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities:

(If additional space is needed, a sheet of paper may be attached to this form.)

Average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date of this statement. (This information is required from daily newspapers only.)

C. S. Harris.

(Signature of editor, Pub., Bus. Mgr., or owner.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of March, 1913.

SEAL: G. P. Smythe,

Notary Public, Adair County, Ky.

My commission expires Jan. 24, 1914.

### Cane Valley Loses a Good Citizen.

Last Thursday morning, at 10 o'clock, Mr. Joseph R. Rice, who was one of the best citizens of Cane Valley, this county, crossed to the other side in full hopes of a blessed immortality, having made a profession of his faith in Christ and joined the Baptist Church in his early manhood, living consistently until the end.

The deceased was a son of the late Frank Rice and was about forty-six years old. His affliction was of long duration, being a victim of cancer, of the stomach.

He will be greatly missed, not only by his wife and children, aged mother, brothers and sisters, but by the entire community.

The funeral services were held Friday morning, many relatives and friends attending. The interment was in the Cane Valley cemetery.

Besides his wife and four children, his mother, two brothers and two sisters, he leaves a large circle of relatives. His wife was a Miss Wilson, a sister of Mr. Geo. E. Wilson, this place. Mrs. Brack Massey, Columbia, and Mrs. J. W. Sublett, Cane Valley, were his sisters. The brothers left are Messrs. Frank and Eugene Rice, Campbellsville.

The News desires to extend its sympathy to all those who deeply feel the great loss.

### Work of the Fiscal Court.

The Adair Fiscal Court closed its labors last Thursday afternoon. Claims allowed amount to more than \$4,700.

Mr. J. R. Garnett was re-elected Treasurer of the county.

County levy, for all purposes, \$1.00 on the one hundred dollars worth of property.

The per capita tax, \$1.00, general poll 50 cents, school tax outside Columbia Graded School district.

### Base Ball.

Next Saturday, the 12th, the Burkesville team will cross bats with the boys of the Lindsey-Wilson on the "latters ground" this city. The game will be called at 2:30 p. m. All who enjoy a good game will have an opportunity to witness an exciting contest. Admission 25 cents.

Mrs. Lona Rubarts, Eunice, entertained quite a large crowd Wednesday in honor of her father, Mr. G. A. Cundiff, of Dunnville, it being his 68 birthday. He received many nice presents which were a great surprise to him. His daughter, Mrs. Ann Russell, of Phil, rendered some nice music. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Josh Beard and children, Mr. Mont. Harman, wife and little daughter, Clarice, Mrs. M. E. Williams, Mrs. Sarah Miller, Mr. G. A. Cundiff, wife and children, Mrs. Ann Russell and children.

A large crowd of yeomanry was in Columbia Monday, April term of the Adair county court. Some stock changed hands and candidates were busy throughout the day.

### Notice.

We heartily thank our customers for their patronage. Now we kindly ask all who owe us a note or an account to please call at Gradyville State bank and settle at once and oblige.

Yours truly,  
Keltner Bros.

Adv. 23-24

### Spirited Rivalry.

For the last quarter the Columbia Baptist Sunday School has been an active body, and as a result, the attendance has almost doubled, and the interest still growing.

Besides having a most popular and active superintendent, Prof. Chesterfield Turner, the rivalry for the banner proved a strong feature in arousing the active workers for increased attendance. For a year or more the banner has been in possession of Mr. Jo N. Conover's class, composed of men, and was there by merit, but Mrs. Mary Biggs' class gradually grew stronger, and finally determined to enter the contest for its possession. Notice was served on class number 1, that it must get busy or surrender to number 2. It accepted the challenge and became active, but lost the honor and prestige it has so long held. As soon as this was known, last Sunday by the secretary's report, Mr. Conover in a short speech full of congratulations, but somewhat threatening recapture, delivered the aforesaid banner to class number 2. In response, and in accepting the honor won, Mrs. Biggs showed due appreciation of the work done by her class, and served notice in no unmistakable language that the banner would continue to float over her class. While the rivalry was spirited, it was conducted with due love for the great cause of Sunday School work, and has accomplished much good. Such a contest is healthy, and we trust that the good work will continue. This is the first contest between the ladies and gentlemen in this laudable work, and the activity, persistency and power of the ladies please have given them the victory. "Well done thou good and faithful servants."

Interested Figures.

The following interesting figures were taken from the Assessor's book for the year 1912:

There are 159,593 acres of land in the county listed for taxation, valued at \$1,492,570.

There are 362 town lots, valued at \$313,167.

There are one hundred and eleven stores in Adair, the combined capital \$116,175.

Total assessed value of property, listed for taxation \$3,290,104.

Exemption to housekeepers, \$1,524,118, leaving \$2,735,923, subject to taxation—\$20,333 less than last report.

Voters in the county, 3,518.

Dogs listed 655.

Rev. John Rice preached an interesting sermon at Disappointment School House Sunday at 11 o'clock. He will preach there the first Sunday in each month from now till November. He will also preach at Hutchins-School House the third Sunday in each month. Rev. Marvin Perryman will preach at Disappointment School House next Sunday afternoon April 13th, at 2 o'clock. Everybody invited to attend these services and take part in the song service.

Rev. Daniel W. White, of Louisville, a representative of the Anti-Saloon League, visited Columbia last Saturday. Sunday he delivered two addresses in the interest of the temperance cause. In the forenoon he spoke at the Baptist church and in the evening at the Methodist church. Large audiences heard him. A collection was taken at both places.

I represent E. R. Spottswood & Son, Manufacturers of Hardwood Lumber, Lexington, Ky. If you have lumber, logs, or boundaries of timber, call on me.

C. M. Herriford,  
Columbia, Ky.

Mr. Frank Richardson, a very capable young man, perfectly reliable, one who has many friends, has accepted a position with the V. M. Gowdy Co., a wholesale grocery house, located in Columbia. Mr. Richardson will travel in Adair county and also in adjoining counties. The trade given him will be highly appreciated, not only by himself, but by his many friends.

Billie Brown, the well digger, known all over this county as "Kittie Clyde," died at his home on Melson's Ridge, a few days ago. He was about seventy-five years old and was a soldier in the Federal army during the Civil war.

### Base Ball.

The Lindsey-Wilson boys made their annual baseball tour last week, playing three games. They made the trip in Mr. Myers' big auto and enjoyed it very much. At each place they were treated royally and have nothing but praise for their opponents.

Following is a report of each game:

LINDSEY-WILSON VS. DANVILLE K. S. D.

The weather was very unfavorable there being a strong wind which interfered with the playing all round. The result of the game was Lindsey 10—Danville 6. Batteries for Lindsey, Sullivan, Hancock, Wolford, and Rosenfield; Danville, Morgan, Jasper, Barron. Hits, Lindsey, 18, Danville, 11.

LINDSEY-WILSON VS. ST. MARYS.

In spite of the cold the boys played well, but at the end of the ninth inning the score stood 11 to 6 in favor of St. Marys. Batteries, St. Marys, Snider and Gates; Lindsey-Wilson, Hancock, Cheatham and Rosenfield. Hits, St. Marys, 17; Lindsey, 11.

LINDSEY-WILSON VS. SPRINGFIELD.

It was a fine day and the boys did some of their best playing. Up to the last half of the ninth inning the score stood 6 to 2 in favor of Lindsey, but when the Springfield boys came to the bat they tied the score and at the end of the tenth inning the score was 7 to 6 in favor of Springfield. Batteries, Springfield, McClellon, Barbee, Wilborn, T. Haydon. Lindsey, Sullivan, Hancock and Rosenfield. Hits, Springfield, 5, Lindsey, 15. Struck out by Sullivan, 16, by McClellon, 6.

### Eloped.

Last Sunday afternoon Mr. Willie S. Feese, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Feese, of this place, and Miss Mattie Hatcher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hatcher, eloped from Loretto, Ky., to Cincinnati where they expected to get married. Ed Hatcher is a son of Mr. Sherrod Hatcher, Adair county, and he and his family removed to Loretto in January and opened a boarding house. The couple met while the young lady was out walking, no one else knowing that Mr. Feese was in Loretto. Two other attempts had been made to elope.

Catherine Williams, of color, who is the mother-in-law of Rev. P. H. Jackman, will be one hundred years old the 15th of this month. She is in fairly good health and her mind unimpaired. She is the mother of 15 children, 110 grand children, 154 great grand children, 25 great, great grand children. Total, 304.

But few of the patrons of Columbia Post-office have the least conception of the amount of mail handled. During the month of March the total weight of mails, sacks and pouches was 25,658 pounds and 14 ounces. These figures show that the mails from Louisville can not be opened in a few minutes.

More than two-thirds of the housekeepers in Columbia planted their gardens last week, that is, all seed necessary to be put in the ground at this time. To have success with beans they should not be planted until the first of May. A frost most generally comes about the 10th of May.

Mr. A. D. Patterson, Sheriff of Adair county, made a full settlement with the Fiscal Court, last week, up to that date, paying the Treasurer of the county every cent due from him up to that date. His report will be published later.

Oliver Miller, son of Dr. and Mrs. S. P. Miller, who is attending the Lincoln Memorial University of Medicine, Knoxville, Tenn., has passed a very satisfactory examination, making the second best grade in the school. The best grade was made by a lady.

Former State Senator W. F. Near, of this county, has been appointed a delegate, by Gov. McCreary, to the National Confederation of Good Roads which will convene in Birmingham, Ala., the 24th and 25th of this month.

Mr. J. R. Tutt, who was in Columbia Monday, reports that the bottom lands about Milltown and Portland were greatly damaged by the recent high waters in Russell's creek.

A large store house at Phil, the property of J. F. Gadberry and a stock of goods owned by G. J. Bolton were consumed by fire one night last week, loss, estimated, at \$10,000, partly insured.

Mr. J. S. Breeding has removed to the John N. Conover residence, near the Graded School building.